



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

April 22, 2004

In re application of : Wilkinson, Arland
Serial No. : 10/734,347
Filed : December 12, 2003
Title : **BARBECUE COOKING UTENSIL**
Attorney Docket No. : 4876.001

TRANSMITTAL

Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicant hereby encloses its Information Disclosure Statement with copies of references.
A brief description of each patent is listed below.

U.S. Patent No. 4,332,409, issued to Stachowicz, discloses a combination fork has a handle at one end of an elongated shaft, and tines are provided at the other end of the shaft for cooking food morsels over an open source of heat. The handle of the cooking fork includes at the butt end thereof an open bore. A smaller fork is adapted to be force-fit into the bore. The smaller fork may be extracted from the bore to remove the cooked food morsels from the tines of the larger fork.

U.S. Patent No. 4,539,751, issued to Chan, discloses a barbeque fork is provided which can be separated into a number of shorter pieces or lengths for storage and the pieces then assembled end to end by connecting means before use. Also to assist in propping up the fork a supporting member, axially slidable along the shaft, can be provided, the supporting member comprises a pair of domed plates placed back to back and each plate having a number of outwardly projecting arms.

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U.S. Patent No. 4,734,984, issued to Snell et al., discloses an improved kitchen implement is provided and consists of a handle and an elongated shank extending from the handle. The shank has a right angle bent end with a curved point tip to remove olives and peppers from bottles and to turn meat when being cooked

U.S. Patent No. 4,844,525, issued to Tarlow et al., discloses a combination barbeque fork and spatula tool which can be inserted under a food item with an upper pivoted pointed or barbed portion that can grasp the food item so it can be picked up and turned over or removed.

U.S. Patent No. 5,775,207, issued to Warren, discloses a safety fork for roasting hot dogs and marshmallows over an open fire. The fork has an elongated shaft with a handle at one end and a hook at the other. The hook is formed from a pair of tines extending forwardly, then bending rearwardly forming a bight defining a food holding area adapted for receipt of one or more hot dogs or marshmallows and finally extending rearwardly, said tines having a plane of symmetry passing through the shaft. Forwardly and rearwardly extending portions of tines are in stacked planes so that the food holding area continues for a distance along the forwardly extending portion of the tines.

U.S. Patent No. 6,286,418, issued to Berke et al., discloses an improved barbecue and kabob skewers are described. The barbecue skewer includes a rod or brochette to support, warm and cook food and a structure that allows for easy and effective removal of food when served. As an additional feature of the remover may include a safety guard to protect fingers, hands and arms from burns. The remover may also include a brush or tough material to scrape and clean the skewer. Further, the remover may be attached to a skewer handle for storage and convenience or may be separately applied for use.

U.S. Patent No. 6,321,408 B1, issued to Esterson et al., discloses a basting brush having a replaceable bristle head provides for economical and hygienic reuse of basting brush handle portions. The brush also permits rapid twist-lock disconnection and replacement of the bristle head element.

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Angled bristles, a curved neck and a soft-grip hand-piece provide for improved comfort during use for more convenient basting action.

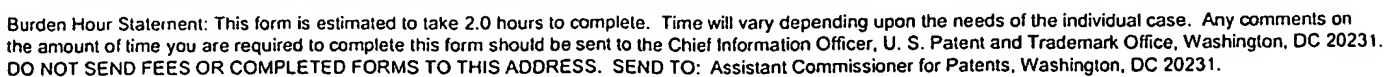
U.S. Patent No. D455,559, issued to Wang et al., discloses an ornamental design for a barbecue basting brush.

Should the Examiner have any concerns or comments, the undersigned would appreciate a telephone conference in order to expedite this case.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Lhota', written over a horizontal line.

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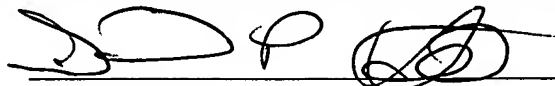


PATENT APPLICATION: **BARBECUE COOKING UTENSIL**
SERIAL NO.: **10/734347**
FILE NO.: **4876.001**

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the following correspondence: ***TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT; INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (WITH COPIES OF REFERENCES); and RETURN POSTCARD FOR CONFIRMATION OF RECEIPT*** is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 23 day of April, 2004.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code.


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